Inmate Telephone Access

1008.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for permitting inmates to access and use telephones.

1008.2 POLICY

The Correctional Facility will provide access to telephones for use by inmates consistent with federal and state law. The Chief Deputy of Corrections or the authorized designee shall develop written procedures establishing the guidelines for access and usage. All inmates will be provided a copy of the telephone usage rules as part of their inmate orientation during the booking process.

1008.3 PROCEDURE

Inmates housed in general population will be permitted reasonable access to public telephones at scheduled times in the dayrooms for collect calls unless such access may cause an unsafe situation for thecorrectional facility, members, or other inmates. The Chief Deputy of Corrections shall ensure a notice is conspicuously posted near the phones, informing the inmates that non-attorney calls may be monitored and recorded.

Inmates are not permitted to receive telephone calls. Messages will only be delivered in the event of a verified emergency.

In the event of a correctional facility emergency, or as directed by the supervisor or the Chief Deputy of Corrections, all telephones will be turned off.

For security reasons, inmates who are awaiting transport to another facility or release to another agency are not permitted to use the telephones.

Teletypewriter/telecommunications device for the deaf (TTY/TDD)) or equally effective telecommunications devices will be made available to inmates who are deaf, are hard of hearing, or have speech impairments to allow these inmates to have equivalent telephone access as those inmates without these disabilities.

The minimum time allowed per call should be 10 minutes, except where there are substantial reasons to justify such limitations.

Reasons for denial of telephone access shall be documented and a copy placed into the inmate's file. The rules governing the use of the telephone will, in addition to being provided to inmates during orientation, be posted near the telephones.

The member should monitor the use of public telephones to ensure inmates have reasonable and equitable access and that the rules of use are observed. Any inmate refusing to cooperate with the telephone rules may have their call terminated, telephone privileges suspended, and/or incur disciplinary action.

Requirements relating to the use of telephones during booking and reception are contained in the Reception Policy.

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1008.4 USE OF TELEPHONES IN HIGH-SECURITY OR ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION HOUSING

Inmates who are housed in high-security or administrative segregation may use the public telephones in the dayroom during the time allocated for that classification of inmate to utilize that space. If portable telephones are available in the facility, inmates who are housed in high-security or administrative segregation units may have reasonable access to the portable telephones.

1008.5 COURT-ORDERED TELEPHONE CALLS

If a court order specifying free telephone calls is received by the facility, or a supervisor determines there is a legitimate need for a free telephone call for a specific inmate, the supervisor may direct that an inmate use a facility telephone at no charge. Calls placed from a facility telephone should be dialed by a staff member. The staff shall be responsible for ensuring that the inmate is not calling a number that has been restricted by a court order or by request of the recipient. Such a call shall be recorded to the same extent authorized for calls that are not court-ordered.

1008.6 ATTORNEY-CLIENT TELEPHONE CONSULTATION

At all times through the period of custody, whether the inmate has been charged, tried, convicted or sentenced, reasonable and non-recorded telephone access to an attorney shall be provided to the inmate at no charge to either the attorney or to the inmate, in accordance with the Inmate Access to Courts and Counsel Policy.

1008.7 CONFERENCE CALL REGARDING CHILD PLACEMENT

Inmates who are parents shall be allowed to participate in a case conference convened pursuant to RCW 13.34.067 by either conference call or video conference.

1008.8 TELEPHONE CONTRACTS AND CHARGES

The Chief Deputy of Corrections or the authorized designee is responsible for ensuring that rates charged to inmates are similar to those charged in the general public and that inmates are afforded a range of feasible calling options.

1008.9 FOREIGN NATIONALS

A foreign national who has been detained may contact their consulate via the public phones provided for inmates. If the consulate does not accept collect calls, the foreign national shall be allowed to make a reasonable number of direct calls to establish communication with the consulate.

Consular officers who contact the correctional facility to speak with a foreign national to provide consular services should be given reasonable telephone access to the inmate.

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